IN THE CLAIMS

The text of all pending claims, (including withdrawn claims) is set forth below. Cancelled and not entered claims are indicated with claim number and status only. The claims as listed below show added text with <u>underlining</u> and deleted text with <u>strikethrough</u>. The status of each claim is indicated with one of (original), (currently amended), (cancelled), (withdrawn), (new), (previously presented), or (not entered).

Please **AMEND** claims 3 and 6.

- 1. (CANCELLED)
- 2. (CANCELLED)

Serial No. 09/688,046

3. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A server, comprising:

a result storing unit which stores at least one processing result of at least one processing request;

a receiving unit which receives the at least one processing request from a first-client;

a request storing unit which stores the at least one processing request received from the first client as a same client;

a request reading unit which reads out one of said at least one processing request <u>as a</u> first processing request from the first clientsame client stored in said request storing unit;

a determination unit which determines whether another from the same client a subsequently received processing request which is identical to the first processing request received from the first same client, has already been processed;

an execution unit which executes processing of the <u>subsequent processing</u> request received from the <u>first clientsame client</u>, and stores a result of the processing in said result storing unit when said determination unit determines that <u>from the same client</u> no other processing request <u>which is</u> identical to the <u>subsequent</u> processing request received from the <u>first</u>same client has been processed;

a transmission unit which transmits to the <u>first clientsame client</u> said result of the processing executed by said execution unit when said determination unit determines that <u>from the same client</u> no other processing request <u>which is</u> identical to the <u>subsequent processing</u> request received from the <u>firstsame</u> client has been processed, and transmits to the <u>firstsame</u> client one of said at least one processing result corresponding to the <u>first processing request received from the <u>firstsame</u> client when said determination unit determines that <u>anotherfrom the same client the subsequent processing request which is</u> identical to the <u>first processing request received from the firstsame</u> client, has already been processed; and</u>

a prohibiting unit which prohibits an operation of said request reading unit after one of said at least one processing request from the first client same client stored in said request storing unit is read out, until a processing result corresponding to said one of said at least one processing request from the first client same client is transmitted to the first client same client.

- 4. (CANCELLED)
- 5. (CANCELLED)

6. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A product for use with a server, said product, when used with said server, is able to output control information which directs the server to realize:

a result storing unit which stores at least one processing result of at least one processing request;

a receiving unit which receives the at least one processing request from a first elientsame client;

a request storing unit which stores the at least one processing request received from the first client as a same client;

a request reading unit which reads out one of said at least one processing request <u>as a first processing request</u> from the <u>first clientsame client</u> stored in said request storing unit;

a determination unit which determines whether another from the same client a subsequently received processing request which is identical to the first processing request received from the first clientsame client, has already been processed;

an execution unit which executes processing of the <u>subsequent processing</u> request received from the <u>first clientsame client</u>, and stores a result of the processing in said result storing unit when said determination unit determines that <u>from the same client</u> no other processing request <u>which is</u> identical to the <u>subsequent</u> processing request received from the <u>first clientsame client</u> has been processed;

a transmission unit which transmits to the <u>first clientsame client</u> said result of the processing executed by said execution unit when said determination unit determines that <u>from the same client</u> no other processing request <u>which is</u> identical to the <u>subsequent processing</u> request received from the <u>first clientsame client</u> has been processed, and transmits to the <u>first clientsame client</u> one of said at least one processing result corresponding to the <u>first processing</u> request received from the <u>first clientsame client</u> when said determination unit determines that <u>anotherfrom the same client</u> the <u>subsequent</u> processing request <u>which is</u> identical to the <u>first processing</u> request received from the <u>first clientsame client</u>, has already been processed; and

a prohibiting unit which prohibits an operation of said request reading unit after one of said at least one processing request from the first clientsame client stored in said request storing unit is read out, until a processing result corresponding to said one of said at least one processing request from the first clientsame client is transmitted to the first clientsame client.